

ABSTRACT

Disclosed are compounds of the formula

wherein R_1 is hydrogen or an acyl group having 1 to 16 carbon atoms;

5 R_2 is a purine or pyrimidine base or an analogue or derivative thereof;

 Z is O, S, S=O or SO_2 ; and

 pharmaceutically acceptable derivatives thereof.

Also described are processes for and
10 intermediates of use in their preparation,
 pharmaceutical compositions containing these compounds,
 and the use of these compounds in the antiviral
 treatment of mammals.